

## ***Astilbe arendsii***

### **Astary® Mix**

Garden Spirea

#### **Culture guide**

**Uses:**

pot plant, border plant

**Exposure:**

Sun - Shade

**Garden height:**

10" / 25 cm

**Crop time:**

12-23 weeks

**Sowing method:**

3-5 seeds per plug

**Germination:**

Sow 2-3 seeds per cell in well-drained media with good moisture holding capacity. Maintain high but not saturated soil moisture levels during plug production. Germinates at 68-72 °F (20-22 °C) in 28 days. During Stage II lower temperatures to 65-70 °F (18-21 °C). Plugs should finish in 10-12 weeks. DO NOT VERNALIZE PLUGS.

**Growing On:**

Grow on 65-70 °F (18-21 °C) - DO NOT VERNALIZE PLUGS

**Media:**

Use a friable, coarse-fibered perennial media containing 10-20 % clay, 0-15 % organic matter (such as wood chips or bark humus), a multiple balanced fertilizer at 1-1.5 kg per m<sup>3</sup>, Radigen at 100 g/m<sup>3</sup>, and a coated time release fertilizer (4-5 months) at 3-4 kg; pH value: 5.5-6.0

**Temperature:**

15-18 °C. Non-frost-free overwintering: Cover the plants with a non-woven cloth to protect against direct sunlight. Frost-free overwintering: 3-5 °C

**Fertilization:**

Heavy feeder. Apply 150-200 mg N per l of a balanced multiple fertilizer containing a high percentage of nitrate nitrogen. Ensure a good potassium supply. Avoid overfertilization with nitrogen. Use 1-2 applications of sequestered iron to avoid iron deficiency.